

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-01 ITFE-05 AID-05 VO-03

SCA-01 INSE-00 IO-10 OMB-01 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

/084 W

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R 221230Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8194

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMCONSUL UDORN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BANGKOK 14815

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF, MASS, TH, LA

SUBJ: LAO MILITARY STUDENTS ASK TO RETURN TO US

1. GROUP OF FIVE LAO MILITARY (ARMY AND AIR FORCE) WHO HAD JUST RETURNED FROM TRAINING IN US APPEARED AT EMBASSY JULY 22, REQUESTING TO RETURN TO US. THEY SAID THAT WHILE IN THE US THEY HAD BEEN GIVEN THE OPTION OF REMAINING THERE OR RETURNING TO LAOS. THEY CHOSE TO GO HOME, BUT UPON REACHING BANGKOK AND TALKING TO FRIENDS HERE DECIDED IT WAS TOO DANGEROUS FOR THEM TO RETURN.

2. WE TOLD THEM THAT THEY WERE NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT AND THAT THEY WOULD BE CONSIDERED AS REGULAR REFUGEES FROM LAOS. WE POINTED OUT THAT WE HAD NO PAROLE AUTHORITY FOR LAO AND THAT IF IN THE FUTURE WE DID RECEIVE PAROLE AUTHORITY, THEY WOULD BE CONSIDERED ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS. WHETHER THEY WOULD EVENTUALLY QUALIFY WOULD DEPEND ON THE DEFINITIONS OF THOSE ELIGIBLE FOR PAROLE.

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3. MOST OF THE GROUP HAVE VERY LIMITED FUNDS AND WILL FIND

IT DIFFICULT TO REMAIN IN THAILAND AS REFUGEES. WE SUGGEST
THAT IT BE MADE VERY CLEAR TO THOSE MILITARY STUDENTS STILL
IN THE US WHO INTEND TO RETURN TO LAOS THAT THEIR DECISION
IS FINAL AND IF THEY CHANGE THEIR MINDS AFTER LEAVING
THE US, THE USG ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEM.
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, MILITARY TRAINING, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO14815
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750252-1008
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750731/aaaabbboy.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LAO MILITARY STUDENTS ASK TO RETURN TO US
TAGS: SREF, MASS, TH, LA, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006